

6715/57089
JAN 12 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Han Min-Jae

Serial No.: 09/319,093

Filed : May 28, 1999

For : RECORD/PLAYBACK APPARATUS AND RECORD/PLAYBACK METHOD

Group A.U. :

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service in first class mail addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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January 7, 2000
Date

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in keeping with the guidelines of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, Applicant hereby submits information thought to be relevant to the above-identified application. Also submitted herewith is a completed form PTO-1449.

This information came to light during examination of a counterpart European Patent Application in the European Patent

Office in an Office Action dated November 5, 1999, and it is hereby certified that this information is being submitted within three months of that date.

U.S. Patent No. 4,703,465 (Parker) apparently relates to machines capable of selecting a multiplicity of randomly chosen audio selections from a tape library and transmitting the selected tapes to a duplicating center where they are duplicated onto a master blank recording tape in a desired order. Specifically, Parker addresses a machine which would allow a consumer to make a recording based on selections available from a tape library. Parker includes an audio/video display of available recordings, accepts payment for customized tapes, makes change for the money deposited for the customized tape, allows the user to select songs for the tape, allows the user to confirm his or her selection, records a cassette of appropriate length based on the users selections, and issues a completed cassette to the user.

European Patent Application 0 309 298 (Ball et al.) apparently relates to a system that allows a customer to select various randomly accessible musical pieces to be copied at a rapid speed onto a tape for immediate purchase, and that automatically records and forwards the appropriate royalty payments to the artists involved. According to one embodiment of Ball et al., selections are stored and edited on a video tape by means of an audio to video digital converter. The selections are

transferred to video disk to form a library, and are retrieved for duplication on a cassette by means of a video to audio digital converter. Higher than normal duplication is achieved through the use of a burst mode input and a rate buffer output.

European Patent Office Patent Abstract of Japan 04178798 (Shigeru) apparently relates to a dubbing device which selects an arbitrary recorded medium to be dubbed on a video tape in a main body, records the frequency of the program being dubbed while dubbing each pre-recorded cassette, and sends the frequency data to a host computer. In Shigeru, a user inserts a credit card to pay a charge for use of the device. An optical disk of pre-recorded cassette tape is reproduced at high speed using a reproduction device. A dubbing device is used synchronously with the reproduction device in order to dub the pre-recorded cassette tape on a video tape. The frequency of the dubbed data is sent to a host computer as management data so that a record can be maintained as to which artist's works has been copied.

European Patent Office Patent Abstract of Japan 62277681 (Satoru) apparently relates to an apparatus that allows a user to select an artist's work for dubbing on a recording medium that can be removed and reproduced externally. In Satoru, a user inserts cash and a cassette tape into the apparatus, selects the program he or she wishes to dub onto the cassette tape, and activates a dubbing device which dubs the selected program at a high speed.

European Patent Office Patent Abstract of Japan

01113959 (Takeshi) apparently relates to a device for reproducing writings that allows reproduction while protecting the author's copyright interest. Every reproduction of a work causes a reduction in a reproducible degree number associated with the work and stored in an internal counter of the device. When the reproducible degree number reaches 0 or a negative number, the apparatus no longer allows reproduction of that work.

German Patent 24 29 469 (Luther) is in the German language. No English language translation of this reference is presently available to those individuals identified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). A copy of the European Search Report from the European Patent Office is included herewith indicating the relevance of this reference to the above-identified application.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if a fee is required for this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP


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